

**REMARKS
AND
INTERVIEW SUMMARY**

In the Office Action mailed February 21, 2007, the following issues were raised:

1. The amendments made to the specification by Applicant in the Amendment and Response filed February 5, 2007 were objected to as introducing new matter;
2. All claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as not being supported by the specification as originally filed;
3. Claims 7 & 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,732,237 to Jacobs et al.; and
2. Claims 1-6, 8, and 11-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over the Jacobs et al. reference in view of the Official Notice taken by the Examiner.

On June 18, 2007, Applicant and the undersigned conducted an in-person interview with Examiner Refai to discuss the rejections in the Office Action of February 21, 2007. The focus of the interview was on Applicant's amendments to the specification and the obviousness rejection to amended claim 1.

Following the interview, it was agreed that Applicant would delete the matter added to the specification through the amendment filed February 5, 2007. The amendments to the specification above delete the previously added matter, thus rendering moot the objection to the specification.

Similarly, Applicant has amended claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 11, and 14 to delete the phrase "a direct attached storage peripheral", thus rendering moot the rejection to these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

During the interview, Applicant presented a mock-up model of a storage device as an aid to the discussion. Applicant also presented various documents as tools for establishing the state of the art in the field of invention as of the filing date of the present application. The document attached as Exhibit A, illustrates the architecture levels, both in hardware and software, commonly found in computers and their operating systems. These various levels are all used by the operating system when communicating with another device over a network. The skilled artisan would recognize that the Jacobs reference uses each of these architecture levels because the cache server described therein is accessed by the workstations over a network. In contrast, it was discussed how Applicant's invention departs from the teachings of the prior art by caching data in a device that does not use network protocols to communicate with the user's computer, but does use such network protocols to communicate with a network server.

Next, the discussion turned to the differences between the invention of claim 1 and the Jacobs reference, where claim 1 was referenced as being representative of all independent claims within the application. In view of the network-enabled caching server taught by the Jacobs reference, which is in essence a network attached storage peripheral, Applicant agreed to amend claim 1 to include the limitations of "the processor is adapted to employ the network interface for communications with select file servers to the exclusion of other file servers" and "the computer having read-only access to the storage means via the processor".¹ Examiner Refai agreed that such amendments would overcome the obviousness rejection based on the Jacobs reference. Further, Examiner Refai agreed that similar amendments, if made to the other independent claims pending in the application, would overcome the rejections based upon the Jacobs reference.

¹ Although not discussed in person with Examiner Refai, support in the specification for these amendments may be found in paragraphs [0024], [0029], and [0030].

No agreement was reached as to the allowability of any of the claims remaining pending in the present application.

In the claims as listed above, Applicant has submitted amendments that conform to the discussion held with Examiner Refai. As such, Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejections based upon the Jacobs reference. Moreover, Applicant submits that all pending claims are in a form suitable for allowance, and such is earnestly solicited.

A request for three month extension of time is hereby requested pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), for which the appropriate fee is submitted herewith. The undersigned believes no additional extensions or fees are due with this response. However, if an additional extension is needed or a fee is due, please consider this a request therefor and charge our Deposit Account No. 03-2775, under Order No. 70049-00002 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Respectfully submitted,

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP



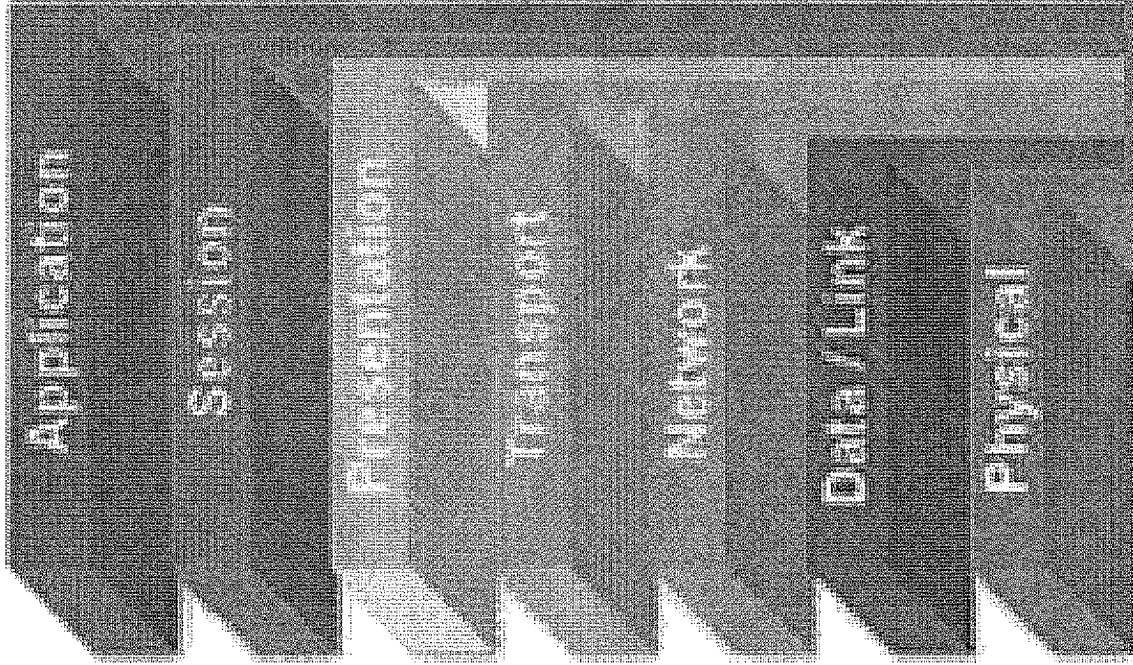
DATE: August 14, 2007

By: _____
David M. Morse
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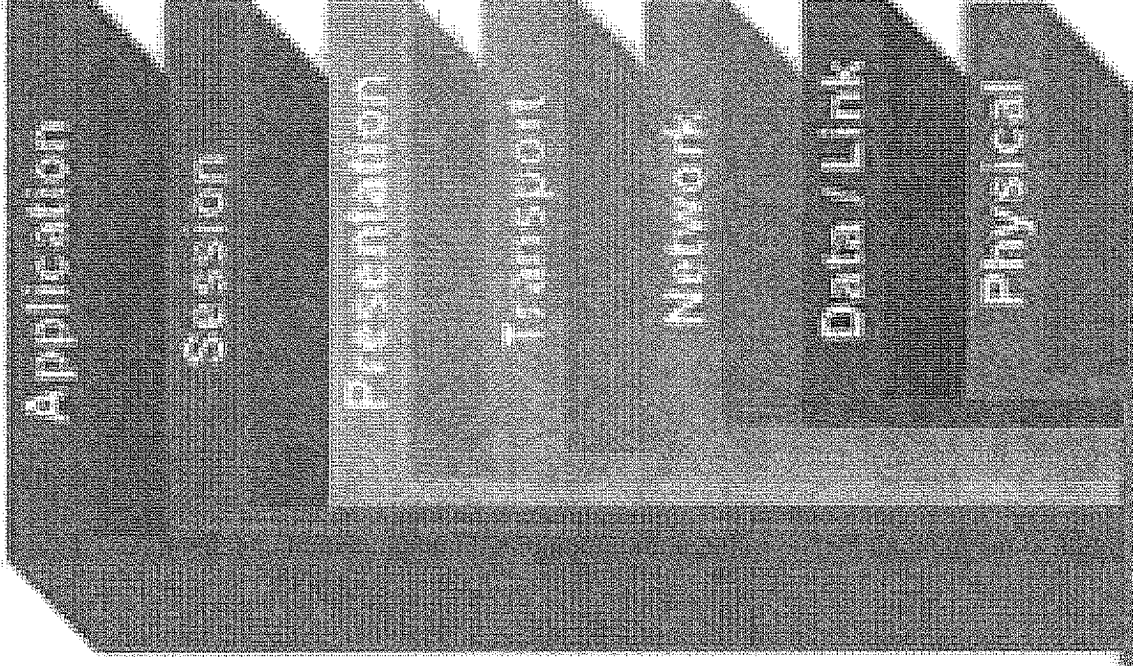
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EXHIBIT A

Host 'A'



Host 'B'



System

Interconnect